

I have been a ham radio operator for over 40 years. My call is WB0DUL, and I reside in Colorado Springs, CO.

I am writing to comment on the Proposed Broadband Over Power Line issue presently being considered by the FCC.

BPL will certainly kill communications on the ham radio frequencies. The interference we get from power companies now is bad enough. BPL will certainly increase the interference to the point where we will not be able to communicate with other radio amateurs under any circumstance, unless we are running huge amounts of power (the legal limit of course), and having a tower and a beam won't make a bit of difference. I normally communicate with 100 watts or less. I don't own an amplifier and I have no intentions of buying one to combat the interference that BPL will most certainly cause on the HF frequencies. I have used my radio for all sorts of things in the past, but mostly I have used it for emergencies, both local, national and worldwide. I have participated in traffic handling during 9/11, I have help weather nets, I have assisted in the fires in Colorado (namely the Hayman fire of 2002), and many other public service events. I feel I have been an asset to amateur radio and it is a hobby that I dearly love and enjoy, not only for it's emergency capabilities but also for the social aspect of amateur radio. I would hate to give up this wonderful hobby and not be able to communicate in the event of a disaster or to be unable to talk to the many friends I have made over the past 40 plus years, thanks to ham radio. I would also hate to have thousands of dollars worth of equipment become almost totally useless on the HF frequencies.

The power companies cannot police their own lines as it is. What will it be like if the FCC grants them the ability to start BPL?

I implore you to consider the good that ham radio has done for this country, our communities and yes, the world.

Please do the right thing and not bow to the pressures of big business. Do not allow BPL to happen.

Thank you for allowing me to file a comment on this issue. The amateur community worldwide will be awaiting your decision.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Thompson
WB0DUL
Colorado Springs, CO